

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION WATER QUALITY
JULY 17, 2007**

ITEM 5

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACTS TO IMPLEMENT THE GROUNDWATER AMBIENT MONITORING ASSESSMENT (GAMA) PROGRAM

DISCUSSION

The Groundwater Quality Monitoring Act of 2001 resulted in a publicly accepted plan to improve the State's groundwater monitoring and to increase the availability of groundwater quality information to the public through the GAMA Program. The GAMA Program includes priority basin assessments, voluntary domestic well monitoring, and special groundwater quality studies. The largest effort is the priority basin assessments, which are designed to monitor and assess the quality of the priority groundwater basins repeated on a ten-year cycle. The basins were prioritized based on groundwater use and account for over 90% of all groundwater used in the state. The priority basin assessments monitor groundwater for dozens of chemicals at very low detection limits, including emergent contaminants, and age date groundwater. The State Water Board implements the GAMA Program through collaboration with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) to implement the Statewide Basin Assessments and other limited contracts.

The cost to implement the priority basin assessment project is estimated to be \$50 million over a 10-year time frame. Proposition 50 specified up to \$50 million dollars to implement the plan with allocations beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2003-04. In addition, Title 23, Section 2200, California Code of Regulations (waste discharge permit fees (WDPF)) includes an Ambient Water Monitoring Surcharge which funds the other GAMA projects. The funding sources and funds expected to be available for FY 2007-2008 are as follows:

Proposition 50	The Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (2002 Bond Law) provides for implementation of the statewide groundwater quality monitoring program.	\$ 9,250,000
Title 23, Section 2200, CCR (WDPF)	Includes an Ambient Water Monitoring Surcharge	\$ 1,300,000
Total		\$10,550,000

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board adopt a resolution authorizing the Executive Director or designee to enter into contracts and any amendments thereto, not to exceed \$10,550,000, to continue to implement the GAMA Program?

FISCAL IMPACT

The funds available from Proposition 50 are \$9,250,000 and from WDPF are \$1,300,000. State Water Board's staff-work associated with this action can be accomplished within budgeted resources.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the State Water Board adopt a resolution authorizing the Executive Director or designee to enter into contracts and any amendments thereto, not to exceed \$10,550,000, to continue to implement the GAMA Program.

DRAFT

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2007 -**

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACTS TO IMPLEMENT THE GROUNDWATER
AMBIENT MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT (GAMA) PROGRAM**

WHEREAS:

1. The Groundwater Quality Monitoring Act of 2001 (AB 599, Liu) required the State Water Board to develop a statewide comprehensive groundwater quality monitoring program as part of its GAMA Program;
2. Funding is available to implement the GAMA Program. Two fund sources are earmarked for GAMA Program implementation for a total of \$10,550,000 in contracts:

 \$9,250,000 Proposition 50 (FY 2007-08);

 \$1,300,000 Waste Discharge Permit Fund (FY 2007-08); and
3. Expenditure authority for this agreement is in the Governor's proposed budget and is expected to be included in the State Budget when adopted.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board authorizes the Executive Director or designee to enter into contracts and any amendments thereto, not to exceed \$10,550,000, to continue to implement the Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Program.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on July 17, 2007.

Song Her
Clerk to the Board